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INTRODUCTION

One of the priority areas of law enforcement is the fight against illicit trafficking in small arms fire-strelnogo weapons, ammunition (ammunition) used for shooting from it. Improving the design of hand-held small arms, the invention of unitary cartridges (ammunition) allowed to increase its tactical and technical characteristics and striking properties. At the same time, the ability of the criminal community to flexible transformation, depending on changing external factors, has a stable tendency to its increasing armament, the use of advanced science and technology, which makes it necessary to improve the efficiency of law enforcement and expert practice.

The production of cartridges (ammunition) used for shooting from hand-held small arms as products of mass production causes their entry into illegal circulation through various sources (theft in military formations and paramilitary organizations, sports organizations; from persons engaged in hunting, etc.), in which there is a significant amount of these objects, complicating control over their use.

Despite the fact that information on the number of cartridges produced by enterprises belong to the information of limited access, the volume of production of cartridges (ammunition) can be judged by the following published data: in 1944, enterprises of the USSR produced 7.4 billion cartridges of various calibers [93]. Currently, in the Russian Federation, the production of cartridges is carried out at several enterprises, one of which, specializing in the production of cartridges for combat, service and civil weapons of various calibers, has a design capacity of 500 million rounds per year, the productivity of only one line of complex automated production with a full technological cycle is 1.000–1.200 rounds per minute.

In the current situation, the role of forensic ballistic examination is indisputable, in the framework of which the expert study of the indicated objects is carried out. At the same time, an important condition for improving the effectiveness of criminally significant recommendations is the increment of new knowledge, taking into account specific situations in the practice of both law enforcement agencies, expert units, and prosecutorial bodies, the court in assessing the reliability of the conclusions contained in the expert's conclusion.

Recently a number of scientific directions and theories have appeared in forensic science and forensic ballistic examination. Nevertheless, the analysis of domestic and foreign literature indicates that developments in the field of forensic research of cartridges (ammunition) are usually applied and are considered by scientists in relation to a specific type of expert tasks. The lack of a unified methodological approach to the study of the nature of such crime categories as "patron" and "munition", bringing in forensic science definitions of these terms from related Sciences (military, technical, etc.), the use of different grounds

in developing classifications of cartridges (ammunition) led to a lack of clear understanding and uniform application in forensic work and law enforcement.

These circumstances do not contribute to the development of the theory of forensic ballistic examination of cartridges (ammunition), reduce the validity of the results and the reliability of expert conclusions. Based on the fact that the purpose of forensic ballistic examination is to establish the nature and properties of the object of study, i.e. the facts that are essential for establishing objective reality, the conclusions and recommendations obtained in the course of such activities have undoubted significance and relevance.

The authors attempt to resolve key issues in this area, including those related to the content of basic terms and their definitions, the construction of the classification of cartridges for various purposes, not only on the basis of existing scientific ideas, but also taking into account the practice of expert research in the Republic of Belarus and the Russian Federation.

It should be noted that in the field of forensic ballistics, certain theoretical provisions have been developed, considerable practical experience has been accumulated in the production of expert examinations of cartridges (ammunition), which requires a comprehensive analysis, systematization and generalization. At the same time, there is no uniform understanding and application in forensic activities of some terms and their definitions contained in the scientific forensic literature and legislative acts; the criteria for classifying cartridges of hand-held small arms as "ammunition" are not clearly established»; existing classifications are characterized by incompleteness of the applied bases; the latest achievements of natural Sciences are insufficiently applied in the forensic study of these objects.

The theoretical basis of this study composed the works of Belarusian, Russian and Ukrainian scientists:

in the field of criminalistics and forensic examination — T. V. Averyanova, R. S. Belkin, A. I. Vinberg, A. V. Dulov, V. F. Ermolovich, Yu. G. Korukhov, E. R. Rossinskaya, A. S. Rubis, A.V. Sonis, V. P. Shienka and others.;

in the field of weapons studies and forensic ballistic research — A. G. Andreev, V. S. Akhanov, D. A. Burya, A. G. Egorov, B. N. Ermolenko, A. I. Kaledin, A. V. Kokin, V. Ya. Koldin, B. M. Komarinets, D. K. Koretsky, S. D. Kustanovich, A.V. Lapin, I. V. Latyshov, V. M. Pleskachevsky, O. V. Miklyaeva, V. A. Ruchkin, L. F. Safran, A. V. Stalmakhov, E. I. Stashenko, E. N. Tikhonov, A. I. Ustinov, V. A. Fedorenko, V. F. Chervakov, S. V. Yatsenko, etc.;

in the field of forensic medicine and wound ballistics-N. I. Pirogov, V. V. Boyarintsev, S. S. Girgolava, E. K. Gumanenko, E. A. Dyskin, L. E. Kuznetsov, L. B. Ozeretskovsky, V. L. Popov, V. B. Shigeev, etc.;

in the field of military Sciences (internal and external ballistics, design and application of small arms, ammunition) — A. A. Blagonravov, V. G. Fe-

dorov, I. A. Balagansky, V. A. Grigoryan, G. A. Danilin, V.N. Dvoryaninov, V. M. Kirillov, V. P. Ogorodnikov, V. M. Sabelnikov, M. E. Serebryakov, A. A. Taskina, P. N. Shkvornikov, etc.

The monography identifies specific ways of improving the process of forensic investigation of bullets (ammunition) in obtaining forensically relevant information about the properties of their design; establish criteria for assessing lethality; determine the basis for the construction of the classification of these objects; development of practical recommendations on improvement of methodological support of expert research rounds (ammunition) for small arms.